

## **Cardinal Points/Puntos Cardinales: A Survey of Contemporary Latino and Latin American Art from the Sprint Nextel Art Collection**

**March 1 – May 8, 2009**

“Cardinal Points” presents the most dominant themes and creative approaches in art produced over the last two decades by artists in Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, South America, and the United States. The exhibition, which opens at the William D. Cannon Art Gallery on Sunday, March 1 and continues through Saturday, May 8, 2009, features 55 two-dimensional works including paintings, photographs, prints, and mixed media in a wide variety of styles, subject matter, and media.

The title “Cardinal Points” refers to the four principal points of the compass. Throughout history, cultures have assigned different values, symbolic meanings, and imagery to each direction. This exhibition looks at some of the key ways contemporary Latino and Latin American artists have used to “map” or examine their personal and cultural identities, histories, and values through their art. Taken together, the works of art and the supporting bilingual exhibition text tell the story of the evolution of Latin American art in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, underscoring the fact that the Latino and Latin American worlds comprise myriad ethnic groups, cultures, histories, and intellectual viewpoints. Ultimately, what becomes clear is that these artists are defined more by the term “contemporary” than by their ethnic or cultural heritage.

Among the most well-known artists represented in the exhibition are José Bedia, Enrique Chagoya, Carmen Lomas Garza, Solomón Huerta, Graciela Iturbide, Freddy Rodriguez, Andres Serrano and Patssi Valdez

“Cardinal Points/Puntos Cardinales: A Survey of Contemporary Latino and Latin American Art from the Sprint Nextel Art Collection” is curated by Elizabeth Ferrer, consultant for Latin American art, Sprint Nextel Art Collection, in collaboration with James Martin, Curator, Sprint Nextel Art Collection. Ferrer has curated and published extensively on contemporary art and Latin American art in particular. Prior to joining Sprint Nextel in 2001, Martin held the positions of Curatorial Assistant and Assistant Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

The exhibition is toured by ExhibitsUSA, a national program of Mid-America Arts Alliance, with major funding from the Sprint Nextel Corporation. Founded in 1972, Mid-America is a nonprofit regional arts organization based in Kansas City, Missouri. For more information, visit [www.maaa.org](http://www.maaa.org).

Operated by the Carlsbad Arts Office, the Cannon Art Gallery is a focal point for arts and culture in San Diego’s North County, offering a broad range of exhibitions, school and family programs, gallery tours, lectures and publications to the community. It is located at 1775 Dove Lane off El Camino Real and is open to the public Tuesdays through Sundays. For information on all Gallery programs, contact the William D. Cannon Gallery (760) 602-2021 or the City of Carlsbad website, [www.carlsbadca.gov/arts](http://www.carlsbadca.gov/arts).

